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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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1548

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7590

10/05/2006

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EXAMINER

ELAMIN, ABDELMONIEM I

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2116

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shibasaki et al, US. Pat. No. 5,270,946 (*previously cited*) in view of Andrieu, US. Pat. No 5,336,568

3. Claims 1, 13, 24, Shibasaki teaches an information handling system (IHS) [*computer system 1 of Fig. 1*] comprising:

a system board including a processor [inherently, computer systems comprise a system board including a processor];

a first battery for supplying power to the system board [battery 17 of Fig. 1];

a second battery for supplying power to the system board [battery 18 of Fig. 1]; and

a switching circuit coupled to the first battery, the second battery and the system board [selecting circuit 19 of Fig. 1], for switching between the first battery and the second battery for supplying power to the system board.

Shibasaki fails to teach switching circuit for repeatedly switching between the first battery and the second battery, each battery supplying a peak amount of current for periods of time during which the switching circuit has connected one of the batteries for supplying current,

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while, simultaneously, the other of the batteries supplies no current whereby, in the aggregate, the batteries maintain a continuous supply of peak current to the system.

Andrieu teaches a battery select circuitry for repeatedly switching between a first battery and a second battery at predetermined time [*abstract, col. 2, line 30 thru col. 3, line 10*], wherein each battery supplying a peak amount of current for periods of time during which the switching circuit has connected one of the batteries for supplying current, while, simultaneously, the other of the batteries supplies no current whereby, in the aggregate, the batteries maintain a continuous supply of peak current to the system [*e.g., only battery cell 20 supplies current during the intervals t_3 and t_7 , see Fig. 3 and related disclosure*].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Shibasaki to have the switching circuit for repeatedly switching between the first battery and the second battery, because it improves the length of life of the batteries [*see Andrieu, title, col. 6, lines 33-34*].

4. Claims 2, 14, Shibasaki teaches the switching circuit connects the first battery to supply power to the system board during first periods of time alternating with second periods of time during which the switching circuit connects the second battery to supply power to the system board [*abstract, see also selecting circuit 19 of Fig. 1*].

5. Claims 3, 15, Shibasaki teaches the peak power that can be drawn from the first battery during the first time periods is greater than the power that the first battery is capable supplying under a continuous load [*because using the battery to power the load all the time wears it out*].

6. Claims 4, 16, Shibasaki teaches the peak power that can be drawn from the second battery during the second time periods is greater than the power that the second battery is capable

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of supplying under a continuous load [*because using the battery to power the load all the time wears it out*].

7. Claims 5, 17, Shibasaki fails to teach the first time periods are equal in duration to the second time periods.

Andrieu teaches the first time periods are equal in duration to the second time periods [*see Fig. 3*].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Shibasaki to have the first time periods are equal in duration to the second time periods, because it increases the life of the batteries and wears out the two batteries at the same rate.

8. Claims 6-7, 18-19, both Shibasaki and Andrieu fail to teach the first time periods are greater/shorter in duration than the second time periods.

This is an obvious matter of design choice. Therefore, a worker in the art would be motivated to have the first time periods being greater (or shorter) in duration than the second time periods, because it provides the user of the IHS with more flexibility.

9. Claims 8, 20, Shibasaki fails to teach the switching circuit includes a field effect transistor (FET) switch.

Andrieu teaches the switching circuit includes a field effect transistor (FET) switch [*see col. 5, lines 36-41*].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teaching of Shibasaki to include field effect transistor (FET) switch, because of it high speed switching.

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10. Claims 9, 21, Shibasaki teaches the switch operates in response to a switching signal generator [element 13 of Fig. I].
11. Claims 10, 22, Andrieu teaches the switching signal generator exhibits a variable switching frequency [*at predetermined time periods*].
12. Claims 11, 23, Shibasaki teaches a capacitor coupled to the switching circuit, wherein the capacitor is for stabilizing the voltage supplied to the system board [*inherently, capacitors are used to stabilize voltage and eliminate oscillations*].
13. Claims 12, Shibasaki teaches the IHS is a portable HIS [*laptop, see col. 1, line 19*].

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

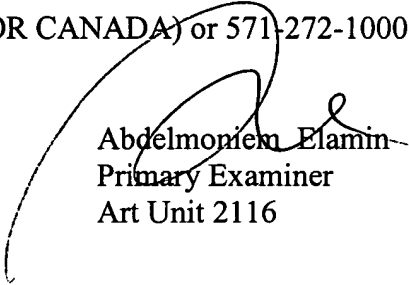
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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Abdelmoniem Elamin whose telephone number is 571-2727-3674. The examiner can normally be reached on MON - THUR 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynne Browne can be reached on 571-272-3670. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Abdelmoniem Elamin
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2116

September 24, 2006